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Kearsley Urban District Council



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

1952

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MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman:

Councillor W. HOLEHOUSE.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Mrs. B. E. TAYLOR.

Members:

Councillor Mrs. A. M. HOGG, J.P.
,, J. MARTIN, J.P., C.C.
,, E. HOWARD.
,, J. ECKERSLEY, J.P.
,, W. TAYLOR.
,, R. CROWTHER.
,, T. FIELDING.
,, N. A. TATLOCK.
,, J. HOLLINSHEAD.
,, S. A. CHALONER.
,, A. WARD.
,, B. LIGHTBOWN.
,, T. ROBINSON.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary and Meat Inspector - - F. BROOK, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk: Miss J. HALLAM.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the Kearsley Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year 1952, on the health of the Urban District, together with the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

There has been little infectious disease during the year, and diphtheria is again non-existent.

There is a rise in the Infantile Mortality Rate, and a marked decrease in the death rate.

A little progress has been made in abating the nuisance of grit deposit, but conditions are still far from satisfactory and the problem is not one of easy solution.

The erection of new houses and the maintenance in a state of good repair of the older houses are still surrounded by difficulties. The intermittent shortage of various materials and the shortage of building labour is a more serious obstacle to the repair of houses than to the erection of new ones.

I am again grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their help and encouragement, and to the staff of other departments for their assistance when required.

To the staff of the Health Department I am indebted again for loyal co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

AREA—1,720 statute acres (approx).

POPULATION—Estimated, June, 1952—10,580.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

						TOTAL	Males	Females
Births:								
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	152	82	70
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	6	5	1
Still Births:								
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	5	1
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
							Kearsley	England & Wales
Birth Rate per 1,000 population						...	14.9	15.3
Still Births per 1,000 total births						...	37.0	22.6
Still Births per 1,000 population						...	0.281	0.36
						TOTAL	Males	Females
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	113	58	55
							Kearsley	England & Wales
Death Rate per 1,000 population						...	10.7	11.3
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth—						Nil.		
Deaths of infants under one year of age:—								
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	TOTAL 5	Males 1	Females 4
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
							Kearsley	England & Wales
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births						...	32.0	27.6
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:—								
	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	TOTAL 5	Males 1	Females 4
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—

Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Acute Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Cases removed to hospital from the district:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Acute Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Tuberculosis—Cases notified:—

Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Non-respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

The treatment of all cases of tuberculosis is undertaken by the County Council.

FOOD POISONING.

During the year there were no cases of food poisoning reported.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS.

There were two cases of Acute Poliomyelitis reported during the year, one of whom died.

The fatal case was an adult of 38 years of age, who died within twenty-four hours of admission to hospital. The other case, a girl of 16 years of age, made a complete recovery.

SCARLET FEVER.

Twenty-eight cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year, thirteen of which were nursed at home. There were no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA.

For the sixth year in succession there were no cases of diphtheria.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The bacteriological examination of sputum is undertaken by the Lancashire Tuberculosis Committee.

The bacteriological examination of milk and water samples and of pathological specimens is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The deposit of grit is still an annoyance to those who live in the vicinity of the Power Station. Although it has lessened somewhat as a result of constant watering of the ash dumps, it is still a nuisance of some degree.

Meetings between the Council and the Authority concerned have occurred and further improvement may be expected.

WATER SUPPLY.

The greater part of the water supply to the Urban area is from the Bolton Corporation. This is a direct and constant supply and is sufficient in quantity and quality.

The Irwell Valley Water Board supplies the area of Prestolee and Ringley with a direct and constant supply and this is sufficient in quantity and quality.

There are four houses, with a population of 12, in the outlying district known as Giant's Seat, dependent on well water, which is not a connected supply.

The following is a summary of the results of bacteriological examinations, chemical analyses, etc., supplied by Bolton Corporation Water Works Department, and Irwell Valley Water Board:—

	Bolton Corporation	Irwell Valley Water Board
No. of bacteriological examinations of raw water	144	4
Results	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory without treatment.
No. of chemical analyses	35	—
Results	Satisfactory	—
Water going into supply where treatment is installed:—		
No. of bacteriological examinations	145	138
Results	Satisfactory	4 Unsatisfactory
No. of chemical analyses	35	30
Results	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Action taken in respect of any form of contamination	Action not necessary	All water chlorinated at source
Liability to plumbo-solvent action	No	Yes
Analyses for plumbo-solvent action	—	138
Results	—	Mainly satisfactory

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(1)	By the local authority	...	...	...	...	...	25
(2)	By other local authorities	...	...	...	...	...	—
(3)	By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	4

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...						71
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...						—
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...		8
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	63

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices: Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers

...	40
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3. Action under statutory powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
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(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners	—
(b)	By local authority in default of owners ...	—
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	11
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners	8
(b)	By local authority in default of owners ...	—
(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—
4.	Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding:—	
(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	3
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	6
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	21
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	—
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	8

5. Housing Act, 1949—Part II—Improvement grants, etc.:—

				Schemes of Private Bodies or Individuals.	Schemes of Local Authority.
(a)	(i)	Number of Schemes submitted,			
	(a)	By private individuals to local authority	... ..	—	—
	(b)	By local authority to Ministry	... ..	—	—
	(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected	... ..	—	—
(b)	(i)	Number of Schemes approved by Ministry	... ..	—	—
	(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected	... ..	—	—
	(iii)	Number of additional separate dwellings to be provided under these Schemes	... ..	—	—
(c)		Number of additional separate dwellings actually completed during the year	... ..	—	—
(d)		Any other action taken:— 8 houses voluntarily closed by the owners at the request of the Council.			

6. Housing Conditions:—

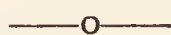
Approximately 40 per cent. of the houses in Kearsley may be classed as old, 19 per cent. as medium, and 41 per cent. as modern.

There are approximately 400 families in lodgings, which still require housing.

Particulars of any housing scheme:—

- (i) In hand at end of year:—
 - (a) Erection of 26—3-bedroomed type houses.
 - (b) Erection of 30—2-bedroomed type houses.
- (ii) Contemplated:—
 - (a) Erection of 20—3-bedroomed type houses.
 - (b) Erection of 70—2-bedroomed type houses.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector



NOTICES.

Fifty-one preliminary notices and eleven statutory notices were served during the year.

HOUSE REFUSE SCAVENGING.

Statement showing the number of receptacles emptied during the year.

Privy middens	...	...	...	...	...	15
Dry ashpits	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	184,795
Pails	...	...	...	...	...	263
Total loads removed	...	...	...	...	...	2,220

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at Singing Clough Tip. This method continues to be most satisfactory.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The sanitary accommodation of the district at the end of the year was as follows:—

Fresh water closets	...	...	...	...	...	3,658
Waste water closets	...	...	...	...	...	70
Dry ashpits	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	3,521
Pails	...	...	...	...	...	7
Privy middens	...	...	...	...	...	4
Privy closets	...	...	...	...	...	4

Three waste water closets have been converted to fresh water closets.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Drainage is partly on the combined and partly on the separate system. The following summary shows how the sewage is dealt with:—

Sewage Works

Method of Treatment.

Clammerclough	...	...	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Main Outfall, Kearsley Green		...	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Ringley	...	...	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Prestolee	...	...	Detritus tanks, aeration tanks, humus tanks and storm tanks.

At Horridge Brook and Unity Brook the sewage is lifted by automatic ejectors into sewers connected with the Main Outfall Works.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

The dairies, cowsheds and milkshops have been inspected on twenty-nine occasions, and their conditions were satisfactory.

During the year, twenty-eight samples of milk were procured and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary, for tubercle bacilli examination. The results of the examinations showed that all the samples were negative.

ICE-CREAM.

Three premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream.

Thirty samples of ice-cream were procured and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary, for bacteriological examination. Four of the samples were unsatisfactory, but further samples were taken, and the results were then satisfactory.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

During the year, the following food was found to be unfit for human consumption, and was voluntarily surrendered by the owners:—

13 lbs. 7 ozs. cooked ham.
30 lbs. sultanas.
28 lbs. fish.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

The County Council is the authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

A total of sixty-seven samples was taken during the year, thirty-four being of milk and the thirty-three others comprising:—

2 Oatmeal.	1 Flour.
3 Fish Paste.	3 Semolina.
1 Crab, dressed, canned.	3 Cheese.
1 Custard Powder.	3 Fish, canned.
1 Milk condensed (machine skimmed sweetened).	1 Sage and Onion stuffing.
1 Milk, full cream evaporated, unsweetened.	1 Ground Almonds.
1 Ginger Marmalade.	1 Lard.
2 Marmalade.	2 Cod Liver Oil.
1 Orange Marmalade.	1 Liquid Paraffin.
	1 Bread Malt, fruited.
	2 Rum.
	1 Bread.

All the samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:—

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
I Crab, dressed, canned ...	Contained 6.4 per cent. ... starch. Therefore declaration on label incorrect. Contents also weighed only 1.55ozs. against declaration of $3\frac{3}{4}$ ozs.	Importers communicated with.
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated ... the presence of 0.6 per cent. extraneous water.	Same vendor.
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated ... the presence of 0.6 per cent. extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.

FACTORIES, WORKPLACES AND BAKEHOUSES.

During the year, fifty-six visits were paid to factories and workplaces, and thirty-eight visits to bakehouses.

The inspections included visits to furniture manufacturers, confectionery manufacturers, motor body builders and garages.

The premises were in a satisfactory condition.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

One house was found to be infested with bed bugs, and this was disinfested by the use of insecticide.

RODENT CONTROL.

One man is engaged solely on this work.

Two sewer maintenance treatments have been carried out during the year, and both sides of the river bank, and ninety-three premises in the Urban District have been disinfested.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

1st January, 1952 to 31st December, 1952.

Visits to Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
,, ,, Property under Notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	251
,, ,, Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
,, ,, Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
,, ,, Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
,, ,, Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Interviews with Owners, Builders, Architects, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Inspections of Drains, etc., and Works in Progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	221
General Visits—no nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	857
								<hr/> 1,587 <hr/>

